

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are pending in Application No. 10/500,695, filed on February 7, 2005. A third Office Action was mailed on November 14, 2007.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-22. More particularly, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-7, 9-10, 15-16 and 18-21 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,090,434 to Benson, Jr. (“the Benson, Jr. ‘434 Patent”). Claim 22 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) also as being anticipated by the Benson, Jr. ‘434 Patent. Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Benson, Jr. ‘434 Patent. Claims 11-14 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Benson, Jr. ‘434 Patent as applied to Claim 1, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,443,592 to Unger (“the Unger ‘592 Patent”). In addition, the Examiner made note of U.S. Patent No. 3,010,378A to Geocarlis (“the Geocarlis ‘378 Patent”). Applicant has amended independent Claims 1 and 22 to more particularly point out and distinctly claim Applicant’s invention. In addition, Applicant has added new Claims 23 and 24. The basis for the amendments is found in the specification at least at page 5, lines 25-29, and in FIGS. 3, 10, 11, 12 and 13.

Based on the amendments and the arguments set forth below, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-24 are now in condition for allowance.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-7, 9-10, 15-16 and 18-21 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by the Benson, Jr. ‘434 Patent. Applicant has amended independent Claim 1 in order to more particularly point out and distinctly claim Applicant’s invention. Applicant respectfully submits that the Benson, Jr. ‘434 Patent does not disclose each and every element of

newly amended independent Claim 1. More particularly, the Benson, Jr. '434 Patent does not disclose **a bridging plate or intermediate housing solely releasably attached to or substantially supported by adjoining ones of the lowermost surfaces of the reflector housing.** The Examiner asserts that the structures labeled by reference numerals 25,27,28,29 at FIG. 2 and 2A of the Benson, Jr. '434 Patent, are an intermediate housing or bridging plate similar to Applicant's invention. Applicant disagrees that these structures are analogous, however even if they were analogous, they are not solely releasably attached to or substantially supported by adjoining ones of the lowermost surfaces of the reflector housing. The asserted bridging plate or intermediate housing of the Benson, Jr. '434 Patent is clearly not attached to or substantially supported by adjoining ones of the lowermost surfaces of the reflector housings. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) is unsupported by the art and should be withdrawn.

Applicant submits that newly amended independent Claim 1 is now in condition for allowance. Because claims 2-7, 9-10, 15-16 and 18-21 depend directly or indirectly from allowable Claim 1, they too are in condition for allowance.

Claim 22 was rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by the Benson, Jr. '434 Patent. Applicant has amended independent Claim 22 in order to more particularly point out and distinctly claim Applicant's invention. Applicant respectfully submits that the Benson, Jr. '434 Patent does not disclose each and every element of newly amended Claim 22. More particularly, the Benson, Jr. '434 Patent does not disclose **a bridging plate or intermediate housing solely releasably attached to or substantially supported by adjoining ones of the lowermost surfaces of the reflector housing.** The Examiner asserts that the structures labeled by reference numerals 25,27,28,29 at FIG. 2 and 2A of the Benson, Jr. '434

Patent, are an intermediate housing or bridging plate similar to Applicant's invention. Applicant disagrees that these structures are analogous, however even if they were analogous, they are not solely releasably attached to or substantially supported by adjoining ones of the lowermost surfaces of the reflector housing. The asserted bridging plate or intermediate housing of the Benson, Jr. '434 Patent is clearly not attached to or substantially supported by adjoining ones of the lowermost surfaces of the reflector housings. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is unsupported by the art and should be withdrawn.

Applicant respectfully submits that newly amended independent Claim 22 is now in condition for allowance.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Examiner rejected Claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Benson, Jr. '434 Patent. As set forth above, it is believed that newly amended Claim 1 is in condition for allowance. Because Claim 8 depends indirectly from allowable Claim 1, it too is believed to be in condition for allowance. Claims 11-14 and 17 were rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable under the Benson '434 Patent as applied to Claim 1, and further in view of the Unger '592 Patent. As set forth above, it is believed that the newly amended Claim 1 is in condition for allowance. Because Claims 11-14 and 17 depend directly or indirectly from allowable Claim 1, they too are in condition for allowance.

OTHER PRIOR ART MADE OF RECORD CONSIDERED PERTINENT TO APPLICANT'S DISCLOSURE

The Examiner set forth in the Office Action that U.S. Patent No. 3,010,378A to Geocar is ("the Geocar is '378 Patent"), although not relied upon, was considered pertinent to Applicant's disclosure.

Applicant has amended independent Claims 1 and 22. Applicant respectfully submits that the Geocar is '378 Patent does not disclose Applicant's invention as set forth in amended Claims 1 and 22. More particularly, the Geocar is '378 Patent does not disclose or teach or even suggest **a bridging plate or intermediate housing solely releasably attached to or substantially supported by adjoining ones of the lowermost surfaces of the reflector housings.** The Examiner asserts that the structures labeled 14,20,39 are similar to the intermediate housing or bridging plate of Applicant's invention. Applicant disagrees with this assertion. Reference numeral 14 of the Geocar is '378 Patent is merely a decorative strip. Furthermore it clearly does not form a bridging plate or intermediate housing that is solely releasably attached to or substantially supported by adjoining ones of the lowermost surfaces of the reflector housings. Structures 14,20,39 of the Geocar is '378 Patent are attached at various locations on the reflector housings 12,13. Those structures are clearly not solely releasably attached to or substantially supported by adjoining ones of the lowermost surfaces of the reflector housings. In addition, the Geocar is '378 Patent does not disclose or teach or even suggest that **the bridging plate or intermediate housing forms a structural part of an auxiliary service facility so that the modular service unit can alternatively accommodate the bridging plate or the intermediate housing in combination with the reflector housing.** Nothing in the Geocar is '378 Patent discloses or teaches or even suggests such alternative

accommodation. Based on the foregoing, the Geocar's '378 Patent does not disclose or teach or even suggest applicant's invention as set forth in Claims 1 and 22.

Furthermore, the Geocar's '378 Patent does not disclose newly added Claims 23 and 24. More particularly, with respect to Claim 23, the Geocar's '378 Patent does not disclose or teach or even suggest **an intermediate housing forming a plenum housing forming an open space above each reflector housing free of any internal structure and being provided with a single air supply duct which communicates with a side wall of the plenum housing.** The Geocar's '378 Patent shows a number of plenum housings, i.e. chamber 21, transverse passage 24 and the interior of collar 29 which forms a well for delivery of air to chamber 21. It is also noted that air is delivered to the interior of wall 29 through passages 30 which are in communication with chamber 21 and air supply passage 27. The Geocar's '378 Patent does not disclose or teach or even suggest a plenum housing forming an open space above each reflector housing free of any internal structure and being provided with a single air supply duct which communicates with a side wall of the plenum housing. Therefore, the Geocar's '378 Patent does not disclose or teach or even suggest applicant's invention as set forth in Claim 23.

With respect to Claim 24, the Geocar's '378 Patent does not disclose or teach or even suggest that **the auxiliary service facility occupies a space between each reflector housing unsupported by each reflector housing.** More particularly, the Geocar's '378 Patent includes a ventilating system that is supported by the reflector housing 13 with partition member 20 supported on the top of each reflector housing. Therefore, the Geocar's '378 Patent does not disclose or teach or even suggest applicant's invention as set forth in Claim 24.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the claims now are in condition for allowance, and reconsideration of the rejections is respectfully requested and allowance of Claims 1-24 at an early date is hereby respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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